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However helpful these lectures may have been to the students to whom they were originally delivered, they contain little that warrants their publication. A perusal of them compels the conclusion that they are commonplace and badly written.

F. N. T.

Recent events in the East have been of such a character as to arouse a keen interest in all matters pertaining to Mohanmedanism, so that there was a special timeliness in the lectures of Professor Henry Preserved Smith delivered at the Union Theological School last spring on the Ely foundation. These lectures, ten in number, Professor Smith has published under the title *The Bible and Islam, or the Influence of the Old and New Testaments on the Religion of Mohammed* (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, pp. 319). The titles of these lectures are, respectively, as follows: The Apostle of Allah, The Common Basis in Heathenism, The Koran Narratives, The Doctrine of God, The Divine Government, Revelation and Prophecy, Sin and Salvation, The Service of God, The Future Life, Church and State.

Professor Smith is fully aware "that the Islam of to-day is in many respects different from the Islam which emerged from the wilderness twelve centuries ago," and, therefore, he limits himself to a consideration of its beginnings and still further to an examination of the influence which Judaism and Christianity have exercised upon it. It is Professor Smith's conclusion that Mohammed owes the impulse which fired his soul to Christianity and not to Judaism. Reference must be made to the book itself for the arguments advanced by the author in support of his position. The spirit in which he has conducted his investigations is admirable. He has made good use of his sources, and, while the subject is such that there would inevitably be a difference of opinion as to conclusions in some matters of detail, the book may be recommended as a valuable account of those aspects of Islam with which it deals. The usefulness of the work would be increased by the addition of an analytical index, and indexes of passages quoted from the Bible and the Koran.

J. R. J.

Mr. Arthur Hassall's *Handbook of European History, 476-1871* (New York, The Macmillan Co., pp. 383), is the result of an effort to do for European history what Acland and Ransome's *Outlines* does for English history, and the arrangement would seem to have been suggested by the plan of that book. The outlines are arranged chronologically in four parallel columns, two larger ones for Germany and France, respectively, a smaller one for England, and a similar one for Eastern, Southern and Northern Europe. The column for France leaves little to be desired: that for England, considering the space devoted to it, is also satisfactory, though for England alone one will still find Acland and Ransome much more useful. The column headed Germany is made to do duty for the whole of German Europe, and occasionally for other countries where Ger-

man influence happened to predominate. Consequently this portion necessarily lacks unity. In the column headed "Eastern, Southern and Northern Europe" no unity is of course attempted, though once in a while it is taken possession of by Italy, or perhaps Sweden or the Netherlands, and becomes the most important column of the four. Its chief usefulness will be merely to call to mind the most prominent events contemporaneous with the French, German or English period under view. In comparison with Ploetz's *Epitome* the outlines are sometimes fuller and more satisfactory, but Ploetz is not superseded. There are numerous brief genealogies interspersed through the work, and notes upon special topics. Part II. consists of larger genealogies, of summaries and lists of sovereigns. There is no index. While history does not arrange itself in four columns, there is a certain advantage in having the chief events of a period before the eye at once, and the manual will doubtless prove useful.

The new edition of Bishop Stubbs's *Registrum Sacrum Anglicanum, an Attempt to exhibit the Course of Episcopal Succession in England* (Oxford, Clarendon Press, pp. 248), does not differ so greatly from the first edition (1858), as its size and appearance might at first glance suggest. The most noticeable change is in the abandonment of the tabular arrangement. The date and the name of the bishop are printed in heavy-faced type, the see or sees follow, and after this the names of the consecrators and place of consecration, together with references to authorities and any needful explanation. The author has fully availed himself of his opportunities during these forty years to make verifications and corrections, but remarkably few corrections have been found necessary. Some uncertain dates have been fixed, the explanatory matter has been here and there enlarged, and references have been made to printed authorities which forty years ago were manuscript only. In the spelling of Anglo-Saxon names considerable changes occur. On the other hand, the systematic list of authorities contained in the first edition has been omitted in the new, and no list explanatory of abbreviations is given. While the former may not now be so necessary, with the fuller references in the body of the text, the absence of the latter will be a real inconvenience to many. Finally, a very important addition has been made in the shape of an appendix, prepared by Canon E. E. Holmes, giving a complete list of the consecrations of Indian, colonial and missionary bishops. The whole book has, of course, been brought down to the present year.

A volume of *Selections from the First Nine Books of the Croniche Fiorentine of Giovanni Villani* (Westminster, Archibald Constable, pp. xlviii, 461), intended chiefly for the use of students of Dante, bears the names of Miss Rose E. Selfe as translator and of Mr. Philip H. Wicksteed as editor. The editor has selected the passages and written the introduction. Their intention has been to translate all the passages from the first nine books of Villani's chronicle which are likely to be of direct interest and value to the student of Dante. Marginal references

to the works of Dante have been inserted in abundance. Since the chapters selected are generally translated entire, and since the headings of the omitted chapters are given in their order, the student who also wishes to get a fuller notion of Villani can do so. The chapters are so selected as to present the atmosphere in which Dante lived, the political conflicts in which he was engaged, the events and persons with which he deals, and what Villani has to say of the poet's own life. The result is an exceedingly interesting volume. The introduction is well executed.

The first volume of the new series of the *Register of the Members of St. Mary Magdalen College, Oxford*, edited by Mr. W. D. Macray and continuing the series edited by Dr. J. R. Bloxam, was published in 1894. It dealt with the fellows from the foundation of the college to the year 1520. The second volume is now published (London, Henry Frowde, pp. 231). It covers the years from 1522 to 1575. Mr. Macray first prints an exceedingly interesting series of extracts from the registers and the bursar's accounts for those years, in which the life of the college under the Tudors receives abundant illustration. The fellows are then taken up in chronological order, and their lives, unless previously given in Dr. Bloxam's account of the demies, are presented with minute care, according to materials printed and manuscript. One of the most interesting matters is that of the appointment of Dr. Nicholas Bond as president in 1589. The fellows of that date submitted to royal dictation in a manner which strongly contrasts with the spirited course pursued by the fellows of 1687, and which indeed constituted an embarrassing precedent for the latter. An appendix presents the text of two inventories of chapel vestments and ornaments, dated 1481 and 1486. Another gives details regarding books in the library which bear evidence as to ownership or donorship. The book represents an immense amount of affectionate labor on the part of the editor, bestowed for the honor of his ancient and famous society, and is of substantial worth to the student of the history of universities.

Professor Richard Lodge has contributed a valuable little biography of *Richelieu* to the Foreign Statesman Series (The Macmillan Co., 1896). His task, indeed, was not especially difficult, for the publication of Richelieu's letters and state papers under the able editorship of the Vicomte d'Avenel has made it possible to follow both the internal and the foreign policy of the great cardinal with singular accuracy. M. D'Avenel, further, has supplemented his learned prefaces to the volumes of Richelieu's papers by an elaborate work on *Richelieu et la Monarchie Absolue*, while M. Hanotaux has in the first volume of what promises to be the definitive life of Richelieu treated with singular ability the story of the cardinal's youth and early career. With such guides, Professor Lodge could not go far wrong. But he deserves great credit for the judicious manner in which he has handled the authorities he follows, and it may safely be said that his volume is the most useful summary in the English language to place in the hands of students who desire to get a

clear idea of the personality and of the work of the great French statesman of the seventeenth century.

H. M. S.

The *Journal of Sir George Rooke*, Admiral of the Fleet 1700-1702, edited by Oscar Browning, constitutes the ninth volume published by the Navy Records Society. The MS. has been in use from the time of Campbell to the present, and the publication, therefore, has little that is novel about it, and that little (the editor's work) is rather accurate than new. Nor does it possess the general interest that Captain Martin's story did. The Journal must, nevertheless, prove of interest and of some value to the student of naval and diplomatic history. Two incidents in the war of the Spanish succession, the expedition to the Sound in 1700, and the attack on Cadiz and on Vigo in 1702, are the subjects of the narrative. Material for the settlement of the old question recently reviewed by Arthur Parnell as to the culpability of Rooke is not afforded; they are, however, official notices relative to the naval constitution on pages 133 and 253 which should be compared with the demands of the reformers of the navy put forth in such contemporary pamphlets as Everett's *Encouragement for Seamen* and the *Inquiry into the Causes of our Naval Miscarriages*. The spirited letters, too, of the Prince of Hesse, the military representative of Austria in Spain, will be read with interest (pp. 200-207).

The editor appears to us to have interpreted his office somewhat narrowly. His work consists of a careful introductory narrative of the Danish episode, based upon the MS. correspondence of Mr. Robinson, envoy at the Court of Stockholm, and of the Cadiz-Vigo expedition, but without criticism or comment upon the details of those events or their general significance. Without looking for a life of Admiral Rooke or a review of former biographies, one might reasonably expect a brief rehearsal of the old question of Rooke's conduct at Cadiz and a review of the contemporary narratives of all these events. Throughout the Journal we are reminded of the great lack of published diplomatic correspondence. Surely some one will undertake to do for the Foreign Office what the Navy Records Society is doing so admirably for the Admiralty.

W. D. J.

Mr. James Eugene Farmer's *Essays on French History* (G. P. Putnam's Sons, pp. 120) deserve more attention than their title seems to demand. The little volume contains two essays carefully studied from original authorities, on the Rise of the Reformation in France and on the Club of the Jacobins respectively. They are not mere studies from secondary authorities, written for writing's sake, but contain ample evidence of serious work among the best primary sources. This does not imply that they are valuable contributions to historical knowledge. What Mr. Farmer has done is to study over again in the light of recently published material two interesting subjects in French history and to make acceptable in the English language the results of recent research in Ger-

many and in France. The less important of the two essays is the one upon the beginnings of the Reformation movement in France, because on this subject he has not so much newly published material to deal with. He describes with skill the figure of the first of French reformers, of the old Paris professor, who weakened towards his latter days and did not earn the crown of martyrdom, Jacques Lefèvre d'Étaples, or as he called himself in Latin, Jacobus Faber Stapulensis. In his second essay, on the Jacobin Club, Mr. Farmer has wisely relied upon M. Aulard's elaborate volumes of documents. Aulard's work is, of course, well-known to all students of the history of the French Revolution, but the new light which he has thrown upon the organization and early history of the Jacobin Club has not yet been incorporated in modern histories of the French Revolution. Mr. Farmer's essay has, therefore, a distinct right to exist, and although its life may not be long, for the information contained in it will inevitably find its way into more general histories, the author has shown himself capable of excellent work, which gives great promise for the future.

H. M. S.

The great popularity achieved by the numerous volumes of personal reminiscences which have been lately appearing in France, dealing with the period of the First Empire, is shown by the steady succession of translations of the most interesting among them into English. The memoirs of Marbot, as translated by that prince of translators from the French, Mr. A. J. Butler, won as great success in England and America as in France, and leading publishers, understanding that the Napoleon craze is not confined to France, but has spread over the civilized world, have followed up the translation of Marbot by other handsome volumes. Most notable among these is Mr. A. J. Butler's translation and condensation of the memoirs of Thiébault (*The Memoirs of Baron Thiébault*, translated and condensed by Arthur John Butler, in two volumes; New York: The Macmillan Co.). Something was said of the value of Thiébault with regard to the period of the Directory in an article published in the AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW (I. 487-488), and it may be added here that the memoirs increase in interest, if anything, for the period of the Empire. But Thiébault is a long way from being a second Marbot. Though full of good stories and written from the point of view of an eyewitness, the five closely printed volumes in French become a little tedious, and Mr. Butler has, by skillful compression, made the book distinctly more readable. The general's personality, with its touches of vanity and simplicity combined, stands out clearly and much new light is thrown upon the history of the Napoleonic wars and especially upon the causes of the failure of the French in the Peninsular campaigns. Only less interesting than the memoirs of Thiébault are the memoirs of General Lejeune, which have also recently appeared in English dress (*Memoirs of Baron Lejeune*, Aide-de-camp to Marshals Berthier, Davoust, and Oudinot, translated and edited from the original French by Mrs. Arthur Bell [N. D'Anvers], in two volumes, Longmans, Green and Co.). These

memoirs were reviewed at the time of their publication with other personal reminiscences on the wars of Napoleon in the *AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW* (I. 726-731), and it need only be stated here that the translation seems as worthy of the original as a translation can be. Mrs. Bell is not indeed such an expert at the work as Mr. A. J. Butler, but for those who, unfortunately for themselves, are unable to read French, her version should prove quite satisfactory. Last on the present list is to be noticed a translation of the delightful recollections of Oudinot, written by his second wife (*Memoirs of Marshal Oudinot, Duc de Reggio*, compiled from the hitherto unpublished souvenirs of the Duchesse de Reggio by Gaston Stiegler, and now first translated into English by Alexander Teixeira de Mattos; New York: D. Appleton and Co.). Oudinot was one of the true heroes of the First Empire. He won his fame by constant service in all the great campaigns of the Emperor Napoleon, and although he never distinguished himself in an independent command he showed himself, throughout, a soldier of unrivalled courage and unblemished honor. The young bride whom he wedded in January, 1812, on the eve of the disastrous invasion of Russia, seems to have worshipped her gallant husband, and her recollections of him were recorded by her in a charming little volume which it seems almost desecration to submit to the ordeal of translation into English. This is not meant to imply any great inferiority in the translator's skill, but yet, somehow, the graceful and womanly style of the Duchesse de Reggio seems to have suffered more in its passage into the English language than the anecdotic egotism of Thiébault or the airy good-humor of Lejeune.

H. M. S.

*The Balkans*, by William Miller, M. A. [Story of the Nations Series] (Putnam's, pp. 468), is one of the poorest among the nearly fifty volumes which make up a generally excellent series. The author had indeed the difficult task of narrating four distinct histories—those of Bulgaria, Montenegro, Roumania and Servia—in the space of 468 duodecimo pages. Hence the book is composed of four distinct parts of nearly equal length, connected only by the bookbinder's art. Brevity left small room for details not absolutely essential. At the same time none of the four presented such a mass of historic material as to overwhelm the writer by difficulty of selection.

The author writes with that insular prejudice which regards the Eastern Christians as an inferior race and gives small consideration to the causes stunting their development. Probably no people would have endured their terrible ordeal of centuries better than these four peoples have done. The Bulgarians especially have maintained to a remarkable degree the solid virtues of their character. The book brings out the fact that, except in very recent times, they have hardly known what self-government is. Without traditions to guide them and with no personal though remote experience to which to appeal, they have been launched on the sea of political independence. The part dealing with Montenegro is the least unsatisfactory portion of the book.

The writer's sensitiveness to Russia is almost amusing. Constantly on the lookout for a Russian, he always finds or hears one or has a creepy sense of one's being near. With a microscope he seems peering for benefactions conferred by the British government on Southeastern Europe, and narrates almost with glee that in 1829 "an Englishman had prophesied to the natives that England would sympathize with them in their struggle to be free."

The style is generally good, but sometimes slovenly. At the beginning the Balkan states are elegantly likened to a "cockpit;" "gang" is a frequent term to describe a group, and "united together" is the usual expression for united. Sultan Murad is called "Amurath" and Sultan Bayezid "Bajazet." Instead of Mussulmans we have "Mohammedans," a common but improper term. Rumors and scandal are credulously accepted as facts; inaccuracies in dates are frequent and prejudice supplies the place of judgment. Of the contemporary history of those states we are afforded a distorted and often erroneous view. The index is good. So are some of the pictures, and there is a sufficiently detailed map.

E. A. G.

In the Story of the Nations series have been published a few really valuable contributions to historical knowledge based upon the study of original authorities, many useful summaries of national history, many convenient, popular histories, which succeed in satisfying the general reader, though they are devoid of real value, and some absolutely trashy productions, which rate the intelligence of the general reader at a very low mark indeed. Among the recent volumes in this series is the *Story of British India* by R. W. Frazer (G. P. Putnam's Sons, pp. 399). This book can certainly not be ranked among valuable contributions to history, nor indeed, to do the author justice, does he claim any great degree of historical merit. But it is far from being the worst book upon its subject. Of course it cannot rank with Sir Alfred Lyall's *The Rise of the British Dominion in India*, nor with the historical chapters in Sir W. W. Hunter's *Brief History of the Indian Peoples*. Neither in knowledge nor in style can Mr. Frazer be ranked with the two great authorities on Indian matters whose books have been mentioned, and he must expect to appeal, therefore, to a class of readers who may be more attracted by the illustrations with which his volume is filled than by anything else. As far as material is concerned, Mr. Frazer has followed worthy masters and he duly acknowledges his obligations in his preface. He has, however, followed Sir W. W. Hunter a little too closely in the matter of arrangement and perspective. In a book which, if it has any *raison d'être*, should be more devoted to the picturesque side of history than to the simply descriptive, it might be thought that the statistical chapter of nearly forty pages might have been omitted, and an account given instead of that most picturesque period in the history of the British merchants in India which covers the latter part of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth century. It is hardly credible that Mr.



Frazer should have thought it wise to omit, as he has done, all mention of Sir John Child, who so stoutly resisted the Emperor Aurangzeb, and of brave old Thomas Pitt, the grandfather of Lord Chatham, whose defense of Madras should have at least been mentioned. Such omissions form a distinct blemish on the book. The style further is not to be commended: it abounds in flowery passages which are not eloquent, as for instance on page 234. Nor are the facts always correctly stated, as witness the sentences devoted to the English East India Company on page 47.

H. M. S.

The publication of the anonymous *Lettre d'un Habitant de Louisbourg*, with an English translation by Professor George M. Wrong (Toronto, William Briggs, 1897, pp. 74), makes a valuable addition to the printed materials upon the siege of Louisbourg. Copies of the original edition of the letter are extremely rare. Parkman had a copy made of the volume in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris for use in writing *A Half Century of Conflict*, and in the appendix to Vol. II. printed large portions of it. But it is now for the first time made accessible in its entirety. The letter is valuable as being the only unofficial account of the siege, from the French standpoint, in existence. It is all the more interesting because the author, while a Frenchman, makes bitter complaint against his own people and accuses the French officers of gross negligence.

A contribution of some value to the history of the Northwest is *The Gladwin Manuscripts, with an Introduction and a Sketch of the Conspiracy of Pontiac*, by Charles Moore (Lansing, Mich., Robert Smith Printing Co., pp. 603-687—reprinted from the *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, Vol. XXVII.). The facts in regard to Gladwin's career have been gathered partly from the Haldimand and Bouquet collections, but chiefly from the descendants of Gladwin in England. When all is told it is not a great deal, but we are glad to learn what we can of the man who stoutly held Detroit against such great odds. The running account of the conspiracy of Pontiac and the siege of Detroit is not particularly valuable, as there is little divergence from the story of Parkman. In his reference to the manuscripts of the collection the author neglects to specify either pages or documents. The manuscripts, most of which have not been printed before, were obtained from the sources mentioned above. They consist of letters from commandants of subordinate posts, declarations of individuals, courts of inquiry, etc., and one or two letters of Gladwin. They add something of fact and detail, but do not enlarge in important particulars our knowledge of those sieges.

From the office of James B. Lyon, the state printer for New York, at Albany, come five bulky volumes containing the *Colonial Laws of New York* from the grant to the Duke of York in 1664 to the last act of the colonial legislature prior to the Revolution. This bears the date of April 3, 1775. Besides the statutes enacted by the colonial legislatures, these pages contain the charters of the colony and of the cities of Albany

and New York, the commissions and instructions to colonial governors, "the Duke's Laws," and the laws enacted by the Dongan and Leisler assemblies. In the first volume is inserted a brief historical note by Robert C. Cumming, which traces the history of the organs and powers of provincial government in the colony under English rule.

The work has been performed under the supervision of the New York Commissioners of Statutory Revision, who are charged with the general revision of the laws of the state. The responsible editor and compiler is, however, Mr. Cumming, who is the chief clerk of the commission. He has collected the material for this work from a variety of sources, published and unpublished, and nothing seems to have escaped his search. He has prefixed to each document a note of bibliographical reference with dates of enactment. It would have been an additional convenience to the student if the editor had placed at the top or side of each page a series of running titles, showing the chapter, date and gubernatorial reference to the text that streams over the pages below. The work of printing, proof-reading and indexing has been accurately done. The index includes the name of each person mentioned in the legislation of more than a century, a work for which genealogical enthusiasts will be grateful.

These volumes form a useful pendant to Dr. O'Callaghan's great collection of documents. Their contents will be more serviceable to the historical student than to the lawyer, for in 1828 the state legislature expressly repealed all colonial statutes. The more important historical documents herein comprised have been in print for a long time, but it was certainly fitting to include them in the complete record of colonial legislation. Ample provision seems to have been made by the legislature of the state for a generous distribution of these volumes to libraries and learned societies.

Professor James Monroe, of Oberlin College, has gathered into a volume of *Oberlin Thursday Lectures, Addresses and Essays* (Oberlin, E. J. Goodrich, pp. 373) ten or eleven modest contributions to American history, most of which were written for delivery before the students of his own college. They were well adapted for such a purpose. Almost all are based upon the author's recollections of his own experiences as a youthful worker in the anti-slavery cause, as a member of the legislature of Ohio in the fifties, as United States consul at Rio Janeiro during the Civil War, and as a congressman after the war. The experiences of the author were not extraordinary, and his reflections upon them are sensible rather than profound. They are made from the special point of view of a college professor, of unworldly temper yet shrewd and humorous. The narratives, especially those of the earlier days traversed, aid in constructing a life-like mental picture of political society in the Western Reserve forty or fifty years ago. The spirit in which these things are presented is admirable, for the author, a constant Abolitionist and Republican, takes the utmost pains to be fair to all opponents, with an impartiality growing partly out of his charitable disposition and partly out of his good sense and appreciation of the humorous.